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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Practitioner's Docket No. 2002DE132

In re application of: Bauer et al.

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Commissioner for Patent
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**CONFIDENTIAL
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Applicant Beaver et al.
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Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR §1.96, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s)) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:
1a. Form PTO-1449.
1b. Copies of Information Disclosure Statement citations.
1c. PCT Search Report
1d. Copies of Co-pending U.S. Applications.
2. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b) with the filing of the U.S. patent application. Accordingly, no fee or §1.97(e) Statement is required.
3. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b) before the latter of three months after the U.S. patent application filing date or the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee or §1.97(e) Statement is required.
4. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(c) after the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance. The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(c) is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 03-2080.
5. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(e) in that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information disclosure statement. Accordingly, no fee is required.
6. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in conjunction with a Request For Continued Examination. Accordingly, no fee or §1.97(e) Statement is required.

PAGE 2/25 * RCVD AT 5/12/2004 7:07:28 AM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNI:8729306 * CSID:704 331 7707 * DURATION (mm:ss):05:12

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7. The English language documents identified by reference in the TRANSLATION Section of the foreign patents list of the attached 1449 Form are believed to be a concise statement or the equivalent or substantially equivalent to the foreign language documents cited in the attached 1449 Form.
8. In addition to the documents cited, the Office's attention is directed to the following co-pending U.S. Application Serial Number(s), copies of which are attached for the convenience of the Office:
- B. Serial No. 10/625,281; filed 7/23/2003; Schlosser et al.
b.
c.

Respectfully submitted,


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